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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/707,664	11/07/2000	Kim Y. Kao	003115.P002XD	9314

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EXAMINER.

PEYTON, TAMMARA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2182

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DATE MAILED: 03/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/707,664

Applicant(s)

KAO ET AL.

Examiner

Tammara R Peyton

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE \_\_\_\_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 20-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 20-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 10, 26, 27, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Janku*, (US 4,902,881).
2. As per claim 10, *Janku* teaches a system comprising:
  - a vending machine including at least one electrically powered device; (Fig.1)
  - a controller (Fig. 2) to generate control signals including user interface control signals;
  - a display (31, Fig.2) responsive to the user interface control signals to interactively prompt a user to provide user inputs to the controller (via main menu, 211, or service menu, 217, Fig.6), the user inputs including (i) a designation of a selected group of devices from the at least one electrically powered device and (ii) a prepayment method designation; and
  - switching control circuitry connected to each of the at least one electrically powered device of the vending machine, the switching control circuitry,

responsive to the control signals, to provide power to the at least one electrically powered device to dispense an item.

3. As per claim 26, *Janku* teaches a system for controlling dispensation of an item from an apparatus, comprising:

- a controller to generate control signals including user interface control signals;
- a display responsive to the user interface control signals to interactively prompt a user to provide user inputs to the controller, the user inputs include selecting activation of power supplied to hardware associated with the apparatus; and
- a switching control circuitry communicatively coupled to the controller, the switching control circuitry to supply the power to the hardware in response to control signals in order to dispense the item.

4. As per claim 27, *Janku* teaches wherein the apparatus is a vending machine.

5. As per claim 32, *Janku* system comprising:

- a vending machine including a plurality of electrically powered devices; and
- means for receiving inputs from a user and transferring signals based on the user inputs;
- means for generating control signals based on the user inputs; and

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- means for providing power to a selected electrically powered device of the plurality of electrically powered devices of the vending machine to dispense an item in response to the control signals.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 20-25, 28-31, and 33-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Janku*, (US 4,902,881).

7. As per claims 20 and 21, *Janku* teaches that within the select group there is a phone, scanner, printer, and fax machine. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill that at least one electrically powered device includes the first and second electrically powered device.

8. As per claims 22 and 28, *Janku* teaches that within the select group there is a phone, scanner, printer, and fax machine. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill that at least one of these devices includes a motor that is selectively activated based upon the controller's signal.

9. As per claims 23, 24, 29, and 33-35, one of ordinary skill would readily recognize that it is well known in the art wherein the motor controls the coil to initiate a predetermined cycle of rotation when supplied with power. Furthermore, depending upon the selectively activated electrically powered device *Janku* teaches of dispensing the material, i.e. paper.

10. As per claims 25 and 30, *Janku* teaches wherein the item includes an office supply.

11. As per claim 31, *Janku* does not teach wherein the switching control circuitry includes a switch box that supports wireless communication with at least the controller. However, one of ordinary skill would readily recognize that implementing this well-known feature would not depart from *Janku's* inventive concept.

12. As per claim 36, *Janku* does not teach wherein the receiving inputs include a touch screen display. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill that implementing this well known feature would not depart from *Janku's* inventive concept.

### ***Conclusion***

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tammara Peyton whose telephone number is (703) 306-5508. The examiner can normally be reached between 8:00 - 4:30 from Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Gaffin, can be reached on (703) 308-3301. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3718.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Mailed responses to this action should be sent to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231.

Faxes for Official/formal communications intended for entry should be sent to:

(703) 746-7238, After Final (703) 746-7239

or, for informal or draft communications, to:

(703) 746-7240 (please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor

(Receptionist).

Tammara Peyton

February 27, 2003



KIM HUYNH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER